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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Braun *et al.*  
Serial No. 09/687,483  
Filed: October 13, 2000  
For: METHODS FOR GENERATING DATABASES  
AND DATABASES FOR IDENTIFYING  
POLYMORPHIC GENETIC MARKERS  
Art Unit: 1645  
Examiner: Unassigned

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

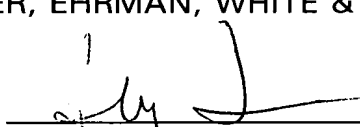
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment, an Information Disclosure Statement, Forms PTO-1449 (12 pages), and the cited references for filing in connection with the above-identified application. Because this Information Disclosure Statement is filed prior to receipt of a First Office Action on the merits in the above-referenced application, no fee is due. However, should it be determined that a fee for filing these papers is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1213, as stated below:

( X )      The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee for the Information Disclosure Statement and any other fees that may be due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17 in connection with this paper or with this application during its entire pendency to Deposit Account No. 50-1213. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted  
HELLER, EHRMAN, WHITE & McAULIFFE LLP

By:   
Stephanie L. Seidman  
Registration No. 33,779

Dated: February 15, 2001  
Attorney Docket No.: 24736-2033  
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above-captioned application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

- at page 1, line 7, please replace "July 10," with —July 10, 2000—;
- at page 5, line 4, please replace "herein" with —herein,—;
- at page 5, line 20, please replace "polymorphism," with —polymorphism—;
- at page 7, line 13, please replace "is" with —are—;
- at page 9, line 2, please replace "samples" with —samples.—;
- at page 9, line 4, please replace "samples" with —samples.—;
- at page 11, line 5, please replace "signal ;" with —signal;—;
- at page 11, line 30, please replace "probability" with —probability;—;
- at page 13, line 11, please replace "genome," with —genome—;
- at page 14, line 4, please replace "population," with —population—;
- at page 15, line 7, please replace "the a" with —a—;